

To change the FCC rules and allow greater monopolistic control of the media would be a terrible crush to the democratic principles that are the backbone of our country. It would also endanger the marketplace competition which is supposed to keep corporations honest - either they serve the interests of society or they face economic failure.

This deregulation has already happened in the radio industry, and I personally know many DJs who have lost their jobs, and have been replaced with nationally syndicated radio shows played by machines on autopilot. There is also a huge degree of censorship over what can be said or played on the radio these days, and it is frankly appalling. It is anti-democratic.

I have read that Congress claims that only TV stations and media lobbyists have been vocal on the issue of media regulation. I don't question your facts, but I highly question why Congress would act on these lobby's interests? CORPORATIONS DON'T VOTE. Citizens do. Perhaps the reason nobody has complained is that there is already a huge degree of monopolization over the media (AOL-Time Warner, the News Corporation, etc) and so the threat of deregulation has not been highly publicized. I searched for "FCC rule change," "media deregulation," and even simply "FCC" in the New York Times and found not one news brief in the last 30 days.

I am in complete and utter agreement with MoveOn when they state, "Democracy is built on the idea that the views and beliefs of an informed citizenry are the best basis for political decision-making. Without access to fair and balanced news, the system simply doesn't work. And media corporations can't be trusted to balance themselves: news corporations have shown again and again that they're willing to sacrifice journalism to improve the bottom line."

It is your job as a Congressional Representative to protect citizens from monopolistic control over ANY industry.

Please do your job and represent the PEOPLE of this country, not the corporations. Similarly, I hope you will share my comments with your fellow representatives, and take initiative to not only vote against deregulation, but to actively speak out against it.